

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1887.

Smuggling.

Those who have much, or even little experience, in crossing the Atlantic, must have noticed the moral color-blindness which afflicts some people when the matter of paying the duty, owing to the government, comes up. Those who are fresh from the lavish expenditure of hundreds and thousands, and have more than enough to continue spending in the same manner, will not hesitate to break nearly every commandment in the decalogue in order to swindle the United States out of a few dollars.

The most astonishing thing about it is, that it is not the roughs and the toughs, the ungodly and the abandoned, who devote their days and nights to inventing lies and deceit; but the highly respectable heads of families, young ladies who look shocked if they hear the word "damn," good young men who descend upon the immorality of the stage and sinfulness of play-going, the austere prohibitionists who condemn even a little wine for the stomach's sake, the deacons, the elders, the college professors, and even occasionally (very occasionally) to their credit (be it said) the clergymen become so infatuated over the fascinating game of beating the government, that they seem to become blind to every sort of moral obligation.

Lying and stealing and coveting and bearing false witness and taking the name of God in vain, are engaged in with a sort of feverish delight. Wine-drinking and poker, horse racing and gambling, have no charms for these people, and their temptations glide off their well oiled characters without the least power of penetration. But the fascination of smuggling perforates their robes of righteousness like concentrated acid, and lo, at once they are as far beyond control and as deaf to argument, as the erewhile smooth and docile feline to whose nose a drop of turpentine has been skillfully applied.

How beside himself must the man be who describes as his wearing apparel and his own personal effects, silk stockings a yard long, kid gloves with 16 buttons, fine silk underwear, like that which Mark Twain got into after the soaked clothes of his party had been sent down to dry and had been returned rather mixed; or that young lady who has sworn she has no presents and yet is found possessed of a noble meerschaum pipe and a doll as big as a baby.

These few remarks have been prompted by seeing it stated that the government intends, hereafter, to confiscate dutiable goods not declared. But if shame and confusion of detection, reputation, morality and religion have not sufficed to stop this dishonesty, will not confiscation merely add zest to the game?

Y. M. C. A. Reception.

The hall over the Y. M. C. A. rooms was filled on Friday evening the 16th by the members and friends of the Association who assembled in response to invitations sent out by the committee. The president of the Association, Mr. J. B. Maxfield, welcomed the guests in a few appropriate remarks. The reports of the various committees were then read.

The committee on vacancies and membership, Dr. J. E. Stubbart, chairman, reported the names of twenty candidates who were favorably recommended as worthy of election to Active membership.

The rooms and library committee, Mr. H. B. Sheldon, chairman, stated that twenty one volumes of "Harpers Monthly Magazine" and the "Century" had been taken to be bound. These interesting and entertaining books will probably soon be found on the shelves of the Association library.

The report of the devotion committee, which was read by the chairman, Mr. John Sanderson proved of unusual interest. It stated that for the six months ending September 19th, eighty meetings had been held under the auspices of the Association. The total attendance at these meetings has been 3,618. The report gave a detailed account of the results of the work done and closed with an earnest appeal to the friends and members of the Association for their support during the coming Fall and Winter. The report was received with enthusiastic applause and had a stimulating effect upon the members.

After the reading of the reports Mr. J. T. Swift, general secretary of the Orange Association, delivered an interesting address. He congratulated the Association on its prosperous appearance, expressed himself as highly pleased with the reports which he had listened to with interest. Mr. Swift expressed deep regret over the fact that in the game of ball between the respective associations of Orange and Bloomfield, the former "were com-

elled to defeat the latter." At the conclusion of his remarks president Maxfield delivered a short address urging upon the members the necessity of having "faith in the work." S. L. Harter, general secretary of the Bloomfield Association, was called on for a few remarks. He responded briefly.

The evening exercises were interspersed with singing by a quartette consisting of Mr. Charles T. Dodd, Mr. J. W. Stewart, Mr. Y. N. Nevin and Mr. Newton Smith. Mrs. J. W. Stewart presided at the organ. Duets were sung by Mrs. Joseph Hague and Mrs. Thomas Smith with organ accompaniment by Mrs. E. E. Baldwin. The evening exercises were closed with the benediction pronounced by Rev. J. A. Monroe, of the Park M. E. church, after which the members and guests descended to the meeting room of the Association and partook of a luncheon prepared by the ladies of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Township Committee.

There was an unusual press of business demanding the attention of the Town Committee Wednesday evening. All the Board were present with the exception of an apparently nominal member.

Every spare chair in the Committee room was occupied by citizens who had come with claims, petitions, and grievances, to which they wished to direct the attention of the Committee. Conspicuous among the throng were contractors Mc Dowell and Callahan, who devote their energies to construction of roads and sidewalks. They were seeking a reward for their labors.

Lawyer Edward Oakes was present to look after a tax apportionment case in the interest of his clients.

Clerk of the Board of Health, Samuel Baxter, was anxious to have the Committee direct its attention to the Conger street ditch, and other matters affecting the public health.

The Committee, however, were so absorbed that the clerk departed to await a more favorable opportunity. It will, perhaps, be gratifying to him to learn that his presence was soon missed and anxious inquiries were made for him. It was resolved to hold a meeting of the Board of Health Oct. 5th.

Officer Ben Baldwin was present (not in an official capacity) but simply to look after tax matters connected with the Baldwin property.

Township engineer Reimer presented a number of profile maps of various streets throughout the Township. It was represented to the Committee that residents in some of these streets held conflicting ideas concerning the grade. It was decided to adopt the grade indicated on the maps of Hillside and Lincoln avenues, the others were deferred for future action.

A matter relating to the purchase of a "damaged" up drain pipe was laid over for further investigation.

An animated debate ensued over the manner, place and time of spending road money, in which the interests of the centre and suburbs came in conflict.

The sudden and unexpected entrance of Smith E. Perry with a juror's summons which he served on the chairman of the committee, probably hastened the adjournment, which soon followed.

The following bills were ordered paid: C. E. McDowell work done on roads \$400; M. J. Callahan sidewalk construction \$130; Glen Ridge Quarry Company for filling street near Glen Ridge spot \$4.40; C. F. Fritz sidewalk grading on Orange street \$131; E. A. Ackerman \$6.40; Geo. M. Wood \$2.95.

Fire Department Notes.

—During the absence of chief engineer Marsh, first assistant J. H. Johnson will act as chief.

—A. J. Marsh, chief engineer of the Fire Department, has gone to Atlanta, Ga., to attend the Convention of Fire Engineers.

—The presence of the hose carriage belonging to the Active Hose Company of Bloomfield, in the parade at Philadelphia last week, excited no little interest among the old volunteer firemen of that city. The carriage was once the property of the prominent volunteer companies of that city, and was considered to be the finest in the department. Several old firemen requested permission to take hold of the cord and march with the Active boys, which request was cheerfully granted.

—Excelsior Hose Company, No. 3, held a very successful picnic last Saturday night at Spragg's pavilion. Firemen from New York, Newark, Belleville, East Newark, Montclair and other places were present and enjoyed the evening.

—The various properties of Bloomfield firemen in Philadelphia last week were strange, ludicrous, and melancholy. The story would make a volume of interesting reading. Foreman Foster's bouquet, "The Camden Fire," "the weary and footsore Traveler," would each make a chapter.

—The convention of the New Jersey State Firemen's Association, which meets at New Brunswick on the 28th inst., will prove an important one to every fireman in the State. Investigation into the collection of the 2 cent on all the business of foreign insurance companies in the State, which is turned over to the treasurer of each firemen's relief association, shows that less attention has been given to the subject during the past year than should otherwise have been the case, and a renewed effort is to be made by this year's convention to facilitate the work.

—There is a little misunderstanding about the amount of rent to be paid by the town for the new Excelsior Hose house. The Town Committee agreed on \$120 per year. In the copy of the lease presented, the amount is stated at \$150 per year. Evidently some one has been speaking without authority.

—Foreman F. G. Tower, of Essex Truck Company, was on hand Wednesday night armed with a document proving that active firemen were exempt. Apparently

"F. G. Tower, foreman," which appears at the head of all documents emanating from the Truck House is not merely nominal.

—Messrs. Rawson and Cockeair, of Excelsior Hose Company, appeared before the Town Committee Wednesday evening in regard to matters relating to their new apartments.

Disgraceful.

Mr. Editor: I would like to express, through the columns of your paper, my utter disgust of the party or parties who have been in the habit, ever since I opened my office here, of trying to amuse themselves or to annoy me (perhaps both) by writing obscene language and pictures on my office slate, whenever hung outside the door. I have become heartily tired of it and would request the parties to stop it at once, or measures will be taken to have it stopped.

CORNELIA S. SIMPSON, M. D.
Broad Street.
Sept. 23d, 1887.

State Items.

George G. Green, of Woodbury, heads a subscription for a new Methodist church in that town with \$2,000.

Judge Van Slyck last week charged the Grand Jury of Ocean County that a hotel keeper had no right to run two bars under one license. The case grew out of a charge that a man at Point Pleasant had a bar on the inside and one on the outside of his hotel.

Dr. E. M. Hunt, of the State Charities Aid Society, which has been investigating the subject, thinks Mercer County needs a workhouse to accommodate the tramps committed during the winter. In the jail there are only forty-nine cells all told, and frequently during the cold weather there are three times that number of prisoners in jail.

Louise Martin Cleveland, eldest daughter of Mayor Orestes Cleveland, of Jersey City, died at Swampscott, Mass., Thursday. She was about twenty-seven years old, was a proficient linguist and an industrious scientific student. She has been ill for between four and five years, and has visited the principal watering places of this country and Europe in a futile effort to regain her health.

The Hudson County Grand Jury has indicted for murder Joseph Schlemmer, the youth who shot and killed his wife in Jersey City in July last because her mother would not let her live with him. His defense will be insanity. The young man said, Thursday, that he did not care what became of him. He said he did not care whether he was hanged or not, as he had nothing to live for. He is very bitter against his mother-in-law, who, he says, drove him to kill his wife.

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